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Change in Homeland Security Advisory System

On January 9, 2004, the Secretary of Homeland Security announced the reduction of the Homeland Security Threat Advisory Level from 'Orange' to 'Yellow.' This decision was based on the careful, continuous review of available intelligence. The Department of Homeland Security remains concerned about continued threats, but the threat conditions that we've been following appear to have diminished. With the passing of the holidays and the many successful large gatherings that occurred during that time, the decision to go to 'Yellow' makes sense.

The Secretary reminds all of us that although we have returned to 'Yellow' we must not let our guard down. 'Yellow' still means that we're at an elevated level of risk. We will maintain particular vigilance around some critical resources and locales.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. G. Gerrity".

P. G. GERRITY  
Commander, U.S. Coast Guard  
Captain of the Port Detroit